

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:
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Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

30 JUN 2008

Applicant's or agent's file reference

040193PCT

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/US05/10571

International filing date (day/month/year)

29 March 2005 (29.03.2005)

Priority date (day/month/year)

01 April 2004 (01.04.2004)

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

IPC: G06F 19/00 (2006.01)

USPC: 705/28

Applicant

ARCHER-DANIELS-MIDLAND COMPANY

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(6) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Date of completion of this opinion

30 April 2007 (30.04.2007)

Authorized officer

Andrew Joseph Rudy 

Telephone No. 571-272-3600

Form PCT/ISA/237 (cover sheet) (April 2005)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/US05/10571

Box No. 1 Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing
- ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ on paper
- ☐ in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.
PCT/US05/10571

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>None</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-21</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-21</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-21</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1-21 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Gerpheide et al. [US 4,563,739].

As per claims 1-21, Gerpheide discloses an inventory management system configured for use in association with at least one container containing an amount of inventory material at a monitored location [see abstract], the system comprising: at least one measurement instrument operatively associated with the container, the measurement instrument being configured to generate at least one data signal representative of the amount of the inventory material in the container [see abstract, column 2, lines 52 - 67]; a telemetry unit in communication with the measurement instrument, the telemetry unit being configured to receive at least the generated data signal from the measurement instrument and to convert the generated data signal into inventory information [column 1, lines 61 - 67]; a first server in communication with the telemetry unit, the first server configured to receive at least the inventory information from the telemetry unit [see figure 1, and paragraph bridging columns 3 and 4]; and at least a second server in communication with the first server, the second server configured for receiving at least the inventory information from the first server via an Internet connection, the second server being configured to process the inventory information for presentation on at least one website [see column 4, lines 36 - 54, and column 5, lines 28 - 41].